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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference P 2003 02047 WO1 | FOR FURTHER ACTION | | See Form PCT/PEA/416 |
| International application No. PCT/DK2005/000046 | International filing date (day/month/year) 24.01.2005 | Priority date (day/month/year) 23.01.2004 | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC INV. G01M11/08 | | | |
| Applicant LM GLASFIBER A/S et al. | | | |
| <p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau a total of 12 sheets, as follows:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> | | | |
| <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p> | | | |
| Date of submission of the demand 21.11.2005 | | Date of completion of this report 02.05.2006 | |
| Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016 | | Authorized officer Debesset, S Telephone No. +31 70 340-4802 | |



AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 JUL 2006

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITYInternational application No.
PCT/DK2005/000046

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on

- ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

Description, Pages

1-10 received on 21.11.2005 with letter of 21.11.2005

Claims, Numbers

1-12 received on 21.11.2005 with letter of 21.11.2005

Drawings, Sheets

1/6-6/6 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/DK2005/000046

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Novelty (N) | Yes: Claims | 1-12 |
| | No: Claims | |
| Inventive step (IS) | Yes: Claims | 1-12 |
| | No: Claims | |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Yes: Claims | 1-12 |
| | No: Claims | |

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(SEPARATE SHEET)

International application No.

PCT/DK2005/000046

1 STATE OF THE ART

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US-A-5 533 165 (BURRIS ET AL) 2 July 1996 (1996-07-02)

2 NOVELTY (Article 33(1) and (2) PCT)

2.1 The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and shows (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A connector box (3) adapted to be partly embedded in a composite structure within an aircraft of a wind turbine, where said connector box (3) comprises a base part (20) and a sealing part (80), where said sealing part (80) seals off and protects a compartment (103) between the sealing part (80) and the base part (20) during manufacture of said composite structure, and which sealing part (80) can be removed after manufacture making said compartment (103) accessible, and where said base part (20) is adapted to fasten the connector box (3) in the composite structure by having a larger circumference near its bottom than near its top.

The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from this known connector box in that the sealing part is a **sealing bag**.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

2.2 The same reasoning applies, mutatis mutandis, to the subject-matter of the corresponding independent claim 11, which therefore is also considered new (Article 33(2) PCT).

2.3 Claims 2-10 and 12 are dependent on claims 1 and 11 respectively and as such also meet the requirement of novelty (Article 33(2) PCT).

3 INVENTIVE STEP (Article 33(1) and (3) PCT)

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/DK2005/000046

- 3.1 The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as providing a connector box to be embedded in a fiber-reinforced part which is capable both of effectively protecting any sensitive elements in its interior and keeping resin out during manufacture and of giving simple access to its interior after manufacture.
- 3.2 The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step for the following reasons:
- 3.3 A sealing bag is neither indicated nor hinted to in the document D1. Therefore it is not obvious for the skilled person in the art faced with the above mentioned problem and having regarded the disclosure of D1 to come up to the solution according to claim 1.
- 3.4 The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore inventive (Article 33(3) PCT).
- 3.5 The same reasoning applies, mutatis mutandis, to the corresponding independent claim 11, which therefore is also considered to be inventive (Article 33(3) PCT).
- 3.6 Claims 2-10 and 12 are dependent on claims 1 and 11 respectively and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT).